## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA NORTHERN DIVISION

AARON GRUBBS,	)
Plaintiff,	) )
v.	) Case Number 2:05-cv-604
CITY OF EUFAULA, ALABAMA,	)
Defendant.	)

## **MOTION TO STRIKE**

Defendant City of Eufaula, Alabama, makes a motion to strike the Plaintiff's punitive damages claim. In support of this motion, the Defendant says as follows.

- 1. The Plaintiff's complaint contains a cause of action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 ("Civil action for deprivation of rights") that alleges a violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1981 ("Equal rights under the law").
- 2. A municipality cannot be liable for punitive damages on a claim predicated upon an alleged violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1981. See Walters v. City of Atlanta, 803 F.2d 1135, 1148 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1986).
- 3. A municipality cannot be liable for punitive damages on a 42 U.S.C. § 1983 claim. See City of Newport v. Fact Concerts, Inc., 453 U.S. 247, 271 (1981).

WHEREFORE, Defendant City of Eufaula's motion to strike should be granted, and the Plaintiff's punitive damages claim should be struck.

#### /s/ James H. Pike

James H. Pike (PIK003) Attorney for Defendant City of Eufaula, Alabama

### OF COUNSEL:

COBB, SHEALY, CRUM & DERRICK, P.A. P.O. Box 6346 Dothan, AL 36302-6346 Tel. (334) 677-3000

Fax (334) 677-0030

E-mail: jpike@cobb-shealy.com

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, James H. Pike, certify that on July 19, 2005, I electronically served a copy of the foregoing document on:

Malcolm R. Newman P.O. Box 6137 Dothan, AL 36302-6137

/s/ James H. Pike

James H. Pike